News and Information

from the Tennessee Division of Consumer Affairs 615.741.4737 or toll-free 800.342.8385 www.state.tn.us/consumer

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE AND DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO WALK DOOR-TO-DOOR

In light of the recent storm damage to the Nashville area, staff from the Department of Commerce and Insurance and the Division of Consumer Affairs will enter affected areas this afternoon and tomorrow in order to distribute a consumer alert about what to look for and what to avoid concerning disaster repair scams. There have already been reports about unethical contractors approaching storm victims.

"We must educate our consumers," said Commerce and Insurance Commissioner Doug Sizemore. "Unscrupulous repair people are eager to take advantage of devastated Nashville residents." Mark Williams, Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs, agreed. "Just as volunteers and workers are converging on the area, so are scam artists."

Staff from the Department will visit damaged neighborhoods with brochures and <u>information</u> today, April 20, and tomorrow, April 21.

Disaster-related information can be accessed on the **Department's world wide web site.**